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| APPLICATION NO.   | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.              | CONFIRMATION NO.       |
|---|-------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 10/546,009  | 08/18/2005  | Simon Delconibus     | 125073                           | 8555                   |
| 25944   | 7590        | 12/12/2007           |                                  |                        |
| OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC<br>P.O. BOX 320850<br>ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320-4850 |             |                      | EXAMINER<br>CHAUDHARI, CHANDRA P |                        |
|   |             |                      | ART UNIT<br>2891                 | PAPER NUMBER           |
|   |             |                      | MAIL DATE<br>12/12/2007          | DELIVERY MODE<br>PAPER |

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

|                              |                   |                   |  |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | Application No.   | Applicant(s)      |  |
|                              | 10/546,009        | DELEONIBUS, SIMON |  |
|                              | Examiner          | Art Unit          |  |
|                              | Chandra Chaudhari | 2891              |  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 14-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 14-22 and 24-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 23 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 August 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>8/18/2005</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.  |

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 14-15, 17-18, 20-22, and 24-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ku – US 2002/0132394.

Ku (Figs. 1-5 and paragraphs 29-46) discloses the claimed invention by delineating a conducting element 14 (which can be a multilayer) disposed on an insulating layer 12 using mask 16, complementary areas rendered insulating by oxidation with a volatile oxide 24 with the conducting layer evaporating at least partly.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ku and Gardner – US 6,451,657.

Ku is applied as above and does not disclose performing the oxidation after the mask has been removed. Gardner (especially Figs. 1-5 and text in col. 5, line 53 to col. 8, line 35) teaches oxidation after mask 42 has been removed.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to oxidize after removing the mask as taught by Gardner in Ku's process to minimize channel length for increased speed.

Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ku and Yoshimichi – JP 2002–134544.

Ku is applied as above and does not disclose using oxidation by oxygen implantation. Yoshimichi (especially the abstract) teaches to form a mask on the metal film, implants oxygen in the complementary areas, and forms an insulation film.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention to implant oxygen and oxidize as taught by Yoshimichi in Ku's process as being an art recognized equivalent to form an insulating film.

Claim 23 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chandra Chaudhari whose telephone number is 571-272-1688. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri (9:00-5:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bill Baumeister can be reached on 571-272-1722. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Chandra Chaudhari  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2891



Chandra Chaudhari  
December 10, 2007